AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the rewritten Abstract which appears on a separate sheet in the Appendix.

Page 2, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0005] An object of this invention is to provide a gasket sufficiently resolving the foregoing problem of heat resistance of the conventional gasket. A gasket for a high-temperature joint according to ~~claim 1 of~~ this invention includes a gasket basic substance formed by filling gaps of any one of a meshed metallic reinforcing member and a woollike metallic reinforcing member with a heat-resistant filler mainly composed of any of diatomaceous earth, synthetic mica and a mixture thereof, and coverture made of a heat-resistant antifriction material mainly composed of any of boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene resin and a mixture thereof for covering a surface of the gasket basic substance.--

C1

Page 2, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0006] Moreover, a gasket for a high-temperature joint according to ~~claim 2 of~~ this invention includes a gasket basic substance formed by filling gaps of any one of a meshed metallic reinforcing member and a woollike metallic reinforcing

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member with a heat-resistant antifriction material mainly composed of any of boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene resin and a mixture thereof, and coverture made of the heat-resistant antifriction material for covering a surface of the gasket basic substance.--

C2

Page 3, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

--**[0009]** Incidentally, ~~as defined in claim 3,~~ it is preferable that the meshed metallic reinforcing member is made of metallic wires such as stainless steel, for example. It is because use of the metallic wires can enhance heat resistance, strength and corrosion resistance of the reinforcing member, thus effectuating longer usage of the gasket.--

C3

Page 3, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 24, bridging pages 3 and 4, with the following amended paragraph:

--**[0010]** Meanwhile, a method of fabricating a gasket for a high-temperature joint according to ~~claim 4 of~~ this invention includes the steps of filling a heat-resistant filler in a state of an aqueous solution mainly composed of any of diatomaceous earth, synthetic mica and a mixture thereof into gaps of any one of a pre-formed meshed metallic reinforcing member and a pre-formed woollike metallic reinforcing member, forming a gasket basic substance by solidifying the heat-resistant filler according to a thixotropic phenomenon and by

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drying subsequently, covering a surface of the gasket basic substance with a heat-resistant antifriction material mainly composed of any of boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene resin and a mixture thereof, and forming the gasket basic substance into predetermined dimensions and shape.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

--**[0013]** Incidentally, ~~as defined in claim 5,~~ it is preferable that the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler mainly composed of diatomaceous earth, synthetic mica or a mixture thereof is composed of total 100 wt% in combination with water within 85 wt%, any of diatomaceous earth, synthetic mica and a mixture thereof within 20 wt%, and synthetic bentonite within 5 wt%. It is because flowability of the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler is reduced if diatomaceous earth, synthetic mica or the mixture thereof is excessive, whereby filling of the heat-resistant filler into the gaps of the reinforcing member becomes difficult. Moreover, a little addition of synthetic bentonite enables the aqueous solution to cause the thixotropic phenomenon.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 33, bridging pages 4 and 5, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0014] Meanwhile, a method of fabricating a gasket for a high-temperature joint ~~according to claim 6~~ includes the steps of filling a heat-resistant antifriction material in a state of an aqueous solution mainly composed of any of boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene resin and a mixture thereof into gaps of a pre-formed metallic reinforcing member, forming a gasket basic substance by solidifying the heat-resistant antifriction material according to a dilatancy phenomenon and by drying subsequently, covering a surface of the gasket basic substance with the heat-resistant antifriction material, and forming the gasket basic substance into predetermined dimensions and shape.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph, beginning line 30, bridging pages 5 and 6, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0017] Incidentally, ~~as defined in claim 7,~~ it is preferable that the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant antifriction material is composed of total 100 wt% in combination with boron nitride dispersion within 90 wt% containing 20 wt% boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene resin dispersion within 70 wt% containing 60 wt% polytetrafluoroethylene resin solid, and boron nitride powder within 20 wt%. It is because flowability of the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant antifriction material is reduced if boron nitride or solid content of polytetrafluoroethylene resin is excessive in the dispersion,

whereby filling of the heat-resistant antifriction material into the gaps of the reinforcing member becomes difficult. Moreover, a little addition of boron nitride powder enables the aqueous solution to cause the dilatancy phenomenon.--

In the Preliminary Amendment of March 5, 2002, replace paragraph **[0018]** with the following amended paragraph:

--**[0018]** Moreover, ~~as defined in claim 8,~~ it is preferable that the reinforcing member and the aqueous solution of any of the heat-resistant filler and the heat-resistant antifriction material are severally deaerated under reduced pressure atmosphere and the reinforcing member is immersed into the aqueous solution under reduced pressure atmosphere in the step of filling any of the heat-resistant filler and the heat-resistant antifriction material in the state of the aqueous solution into the gaps of the metallic reinforcing member in the foregoing fabricating method. In this way, it is surely possible to prevent bubbles from remaining inside the heat-resistant filler, whereby strength of the gasket basic substance can be enhanced.--

Page 6, replace the paragraph, beginning on line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

--**[0019]** Furthermore, ~~as defined in claim 9,~~ it is preferable that the meshed metallic reinforcing member is made of metallic wires such as stainless steel, for example. It is

because use of the metallic wires can enhance heat resistance, strength and corrosion resistance of the reinforcing member, thus effectuating longer usage of the gasket. As for density of the reinforcing member, density in a range from 2.0 to 4.0 g/cm^3 is preferred in view of a balance between strength and a filling property.--